

REPORT

OF

THE DIRECTORS

OF THE

MONTROSE ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM,

INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1st JUNE, 1858.

~~~~~  
**INSTITUTED 1782.**  
~~~~~

MONTROSE :
PRINTED BY DAVID HODGE, HIGH STREET.

MDCCCLVIII.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30315918>

List of Directors of the Royal Lunatic Asylum, &c.

JUNE, 1858.

- The PROVOST and ELDEST BAILIE of MONTROSE.
The FIRST and SECOND MINISTERS of the Parish of MONTROSE.
- 5 PATRICK ARKLEY, Esq. of Dunninald.
DAVID SCOTT, Esq. of Brotherton.
W. MACDONALD MACDONALD, Esq. of Rossie.
The Right Hon. the EARL OF SOUTHESK.
WILLIAM FORSYTH GRANT, Esq. of Ecclesgreig.
- 10 Sir JAMES CAMPBELL, of Stracathro.
ALEXANDER PORTEOUS, Esq. of Lauriston.
THOMAS RENNY TAILYOUR, Esq. of Borrowfield.
JOHN DUNCAN, Esq. of Sunnyside and Parkhill.
DAVID LYALL, Esq. of Gallery.
- 15 THOMAS MACPHERSON GRANT, Esq. of Craigo.
The Rev. THOMAS HILL, Minister of Logie Pert.
ROBERT MITCHELL, do. Craig.
THOMAS MACINTOSH, do. St. Cyrus.
JAMES HAY, do. Lunan.
- 20 WILLIAM NIXON, do. St. John's, Montrose.
PATRICK CUSHNIE, do. Scots Episcopal Church, do.
JAMES DODDS, do. Melville Church, do.
JOHN LISTER, do. Free St. George's, do.
WILLIAM REID, do. Maryton.
- 25 Messrs. JOHN ABERDEIN, Montrose.
WILLIAM JAMESON, do.
ROBERT MILLAR, do.
ARCHIBALD FOOTE, do.
Captain ARCHD. MACNIELL, do.
- 30 Messrs. GEORGE SMART, do.
ROBERT BURNES, do.
DAVID MACKIE, do.
ALEXANDER COWIE, do.
DAVID WALKER, do.
- 35 THOMAS BARCLAY, do.
ROBERT WALKER, do.
JAMES SMITH, R.N., do.
JAMES M. PATON, do.
FRANCIS B. PATON, do.
- 40 ROBERT COWIE, do.
ROBERT SMART, do.
THOMAS NAPIER, do.
JOHN BOYD, do.
C. H. MILLAR, do.
- 45 WILLIAM BEATTIE, do.
DAVID MITCHELL, do.
CHARLES BIRNIE, do.
FRANCIS ABERDEIN, do.
ROBERT COOKE, do.
- 50 JOHN GUTHRIE, do.
DAVID HILL, & GEORGE C. CHALMERS, Bankers, Joint-Treasurers.
JAMES C. HOWDEN, M.D., Medical Superintendent.
JAMES NIDDRIE, Master.
Mrs. WRIGHT, Matron.

Annual General Meeting 2d Tuesday of June; Monthly Meeting 1st Tuesday of each Month, at 12 o'clock noon.

ADAM BURNES, *Secretary.*

House Committee of Asylum.

Provost MACKIE.

Messrs. ROBERT SMART.

WILLIAM BEATTIE.

DAVID WALKER.

JOHN GUTHRIE.

Provost MACKIE, *Convener.*

Infirmary Committee.

Messrs. ROBERT MILLAR.

ALEXANDER COWIE.

ROBERT COWIE.

ROBERT COOKE.

Rev. JAMES DODDS.

Mr. MILLAR, *Convener.*

Abstract of the Treasurer's Accounts for the Year ending 1st June, 1858.

Discharge.

DAVID HILL & G. C. CHALMERS, *Treasurers.*
(Errors excepted.)

Abstract of the Treasurer's Accounts for the Year ending 1st June, 1858.

Discharge.

DAVID HILL & G. C. CHALMERS, *Treasurers.*
(Errors excepted.)
Montrose, 1st June, 1858.

ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM, MONTROSE.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

For the Year ending 1st June, 1858.

At the end of May, 1857, the number of patients in the Institution was 250. Since then, 81 have been admitted, 68 have been discharged, and 30 have died.

Of the admissions, 15 are persons who have been once or oftener in this, and 16 who have been previously in other Asylums.

As will be observed from Table II., Insanity had existed for a shorter period than twelve months in 56 of the admissions, and for a longer period in 32. Table III. shews the ages of those admitted, recovered, and dead, arranged in decennial periods: the largest number of the admissions are between 40 and 50; but it must not be concluded from this fact that insanity is most obnoxious at that age, as many of these persons had been insane for years before their admission, as will be seen in the preceding table.

Five of the cases were under 20 on their admission, three of these were males and epileptic, and two of them females in whom insanity seemed dependent on amenorrhœa.

The alleged causes of Insanity in those admitted are given in Table IV. I am inclined, however, to place very little reliance on its correctness. Cause and effect are often confounded, and the facts of the case are frequently withheld intentionally by the friends of the patient. There is a very natural tendency in parents to search out for some cause, other than hereditary tendency—it is humbling to their parental pride to admit that they have been instrumental in implanting disease in their offspring, and vaccination, strong medicine, or some perfectly innocent occurrence, is often blamed for the sad calamity, in order to conceal from the medical man the existence of hereditary taint.

The duration of insanity previous to admission is frequently mis-stated. It may be mentioned in the written statement that the patient has been insane for a fortnight; but on making a

cross-examination of the friends it will be discovered, that while he has been excited and violent during that period, he has laboured under delusions, and has exhibited unequivocal symptoms of insanity for months previously.

It is to be regretted that the statement annexed to the petition in the schedules used under the New Lunacy Act does not elicit more minute details of the case, and that at least some of the queries, more strictly medical in their nature, are not answered by the medical attendant, instead of by the petitioner. At present the information afforded is extremely meagre; and, though a separate form of queries might be employed, it is not desirable to multiply documents, which, unless incorporated with the schedule required by law, would, in all probability, be unheeded.

Since the commencement of 1858, no fewer than 70 pauper patients have been refused admission for want of room, showing the urgent necessity for opening the New House as speedily as possible.

Much inconvenience has of late been experienced by parties sending patients to the Asylum, in consequence of the new law not providing for the granting of warrants for admission by a Depute Sheriff-Substitute. All warrants must be taken to Forfar—a distance of 20 miles—in order to obtain the signature of the Sheriff-Substitute, whereas formerly they were signed by his Depute in Montrose, thereby saving both time, trouble, and expense to the petitioner.

While speaking of the admission of patients, I cannot refrain from alluding to a practice, so common that it is the exception to find it departed from, and so injurious to the welfare of the patient, that it is impossible to say where its bad effects are to terminate—I refer to the practice of bringing patients to the Asylum under false pretences. The insane are proverbially suspicious, and prone to believe that their detention is the result of some malicious plot, or at least of some mistake, and nothing tends so strongly to confirm this belief as the discovery that they have been deceived. Men who would scorn to tell a lie to a sane person, seem to imagine that they have a special dispensation for doing so to the insane. The patient is brought from his or her home to visit a sister, a mother, or child, or to transact some fancied piece of business, and, instead, is lodged in a Lunatic Asylum. It must be remembered that most insane persons believe themselves sane, or at least they like to get credit for being so, and it is only necessary to suppose oneself similarly treated in order to realize the feelings of distrust and indignation which such a proceeding justly generates. It not only injuriously affects the proper relationship which ought to exist between the patient and the officers of the Asylum, but it is apt to give birth

to feelings of revenge towards the relatives who have acted deceivers, which may never be obliterated. By far the greater number of persons so affected will agree to follow the advice of a judicious medical attendant, backed by the urgent entreaties of friends; others, when they see that they have no alternative, and that a sufficient number of attendants are at hand, will quietly submit to their fate; and even at the worst, should great resistance be made, it would be better to use mechanical restraint than deceit, though this is a step which requires but rarely to be adopted, and should never be so without giving the patient every chance of going voluntarily.

It will be observed in Table V. that a man was admitted labouring under Hysterical Mania, an affection rare in the male sex. He was hereditarily predisposed to insanity, was possessed of a highly nervous temperament, and of an unstable and ill-regulated mind.

A woman was re-admitted who had only enjoyed her liberty for four days. On her first admission, she laboured under intense melancholy, believing that she had committed unpardonable sin, for which she was to be eternally damned. She gradually improved; and for a month previous to her discharge she was, to all appearance, quite well. Every precaution was taken to lessen the probability of a relapse, and she was visited by her husband and children without any bad effect. She left the Asylum in high health and spirits, full of gratitude and hope, and it was difficult to recognize the same person in the wretched shrunken creature—a very type of human misery—who returned to the Asylum only four days afterwards. A short residence in the Institution sufficed to dissipate the cloud which had overspread her intellect, and she was again active and cheerful, and has continued for three months, daily assisting the servants in the laundry or household work.

Two cases believed to be labouring under General Paralysis were admitted, in whom a propensity to theft was the prominent symptom of mental aberration, and seemed closely allied to those ambitious delusions so constant in this affection. One of these was a woman, who exhibited delusions regarding her rank and wealth. One day she abstracted a dress from a pawnbroker's shop, which she concealed in her own house. She was arrested, found insane, and sent to the Asylum. On her admission, she exhibited great confusion of thought; was facile and ambitious; a vacancy of expression, slight tremor of the lips, and marked dilatation of one pupil, indicated the probability that she laboured under General Paralysis; and for some time she was most troublesome, owing to her propensity to pick up and secrete about her person any little thing that might be lying about the ward.

The other case was that of a man, who was arrested and tried for stealing pictures, and was sentenced to sixty days' imprisonment. While in jail, the officials observed other symptoms of insanity, and at the expiry of his sentence, he was transferred to the Asylum. At that time his speech was markedly affected, one pupil was dilated, his gait was unsteady, and his physiognomy was strongly indicative of General Paralysis. He spoke of his wealth, issued orders for building ships, and abounded in projects for his own glorification, and for the benefit of humanity, but was not above appropriating whatever he could lay his hands on, quite irrespective of any possible use the article could be of to him. Much improvement has taken place in this man's bodily health, his delusions have faded, and with them his singular propensity to steal.

Five of the seven cases of General Paralysis were persons who had long been of irregular and intemperate habits; in another the supposed cause was prolonged lactation; and in one only could no cause be assigned.

Of the discharges, 28 were uncured, and 43 recovered. Of those uncured, 12 were transferred to other public Asylums, 5 to private Asylums, 1 to a poor's-house, 1 to be boarded in a private family, and 9 to reside with their relatives. Of these last, the greater number were convalescent, and were removed on the recommendation of the medical officer. Some cases in which there is a tendency to lapse into imbecility are much benefited by being once more placed amidst those social relationships where the natural affections have full play.

The recoveries are in the ratio of 48.8 per cent. to the admissions. Four of these were females under 20 years of age, in whom insanity was dependent on amenorrhœa, and who recovered on the return of the catamania. One female recovered after a residence in the Asylum of six years. She was subject to periodic maniacal attacks, and having latterly passed over several periods without any threatening of her malady, she was discharged. Two females and two males recovered after a residence of less than six weeks.

A female recovered after a residence of nine months, under circumstances somewhat peculiar. She was admitted in August last in a state of great excitement, and continued for months quite maniacal. Ere long her appearance indicated a strong probability that she was *enceinte*. In the month of January, a slight improvement was perceptible in her mental state, she was less noisy, began to employ herself a little in the laundry, her habits—which had been hitherto filthy—improved, and her conversation became tolerably coherent, though she continued to exhibit great exuberance of spirits and emotional disturbance. On the

12th of May, she gave birth to a male child. A marked change took place on her mind almost at once,—she became calm and collected, her conversation was rational, and she evinced great affection for the infant, which she was allowed to suckle. On the 15th, she was visited by her sister, who left, impressed with the conviction that she was as sane as she had ever seen her. On the evening of the same day, I found her bathed in tears, and, on enquiring the reason, I was not a little astonished when she informed me that she had only that day discovered that she was an inmate of a lunatic asylum. The first five months of her residence was a complete blank, and after she had been nearly six months in the house she became possessed of the unaccountable notion that she was in America. The medical officer she mistook for a cousin, in whose house she fancied herself resident, and the odd personages by whom she was surrounded she supposed to be the neighbours who were going out and in. This dream was only dispelled by the sight of her sister; and it is remarkable, that a person exhibiting so little intellectual derangement should not have possessed consciousness sufficient to enable her to realize her situation. She made a rapid recovery, and was discharged on the 29th May. The presence of the little stranger, and the occurrence of an event so unusual in the Asylum, created no small interest among the female patients, one of whom fulfilled the office of nurse with great kindness and ability. The baby, as may be supposed, was a great pet, and eclipsed all the canaries, cats, and dogs of the establishment during his short stay.

The mortality has been high during the year, but has not depended on the visitation of any contagious or epidemic disease. Diarrhœa was prevalent in the autumn and influenza in the spring, but none of the cases terminated fatally. I have no data for ascertaining the average number daily resident, on which the rate of mortality should be estimated, but the deaths are in the ratio of 8.87 per cent. to the total number treated during the year. Upwards of 30 per cent. of the deaths are from diseases of the nervous system, and about 28 per cent. from diseases of the lungs. Three of those who died were old residents, having been respectively 27, 32, and 39 years in the Asylum.

I have little to report in respect of treatment. Therapeutic appliances have been directed more to the improvement of the general health than to the special cure of insanity. It rarely happens that an unsound mind coexists with a sound body, and the diagnosis and treatment of the bodily ailments of the insane, while surrounded with many difficulties, are objects of the first importance with the Asylum Physician.

Occupation has been considered as the great mental remedy; and, whether under the form of amusement, manual or intellectual

labour, the end in view has always been the same—to seduce the mind from those morbid channels in which it has wandered. Manual labour has been necessarily restricted, owing to the transition stage of the Institution; and, though Table VIII. shews that our hands have not been idle, it gives but a poor idea of what they would have done if they had had suitable work for them to do.

The school has been carried on with unabated vigour, under the more immediate management of one of the inmates, and has largely contributed to store the bazaar, which in its turn aids, by the profit derived from the articles sold, in defraying the expense of the amusements. The weekly visits of two benevolent ladies, who have taken such a praiseworthy interest in the instruction of our scholars, cannot be too highly appreciated; for while the patients have benefited by their teaching and friendly advice, those visits have inspired them with the conviction that they are not lost sight of by the outer world, and that though temporarily secluded, society still holds out to them the right hand of fellowship.

A class for instruction in Vocal Music, under the management of a professional teacher from the town, has met twice a week since the beginning of the year, and has proved a source of much benefit and interest to those attending it.

Twelve lectures, on a variety of subjects, have been delivered by gentlemen interested in the Institution; and we are indebted to the various musical associations, bands, and choirs in Montrose, for twelve concerts during the year. During the summer months, six pic-nics took place, besides frequent driving and walking excursions to the country. Our weekly ball has been a regular source of amusement; while on Hallowe'en and Christmas, the gay decorations of the hall and the refreshments added an additional charm to the entertainment.

Exhibitions of the magic lantern, evening parties, attendance on lectures and amusements in the town, &c., have tended to break through the tedium and routine of an Asylum life, while the high class patients have been encouraged to engage themselves in the preparation of objects of natural history, and other occupations more suited to their previous habits than ordinary manual labour.

The duties of the Chaplain have been performed with much efficiency, and he is now, in addition to his services on Sabbath, in the practice of visiting and administering religious consolation to the sick and dying.

We have been indebted to several friends of the Institution for donations of books and pictures, and we trust that other parties will follow their good example, as objects which may be of little

value to the donor, add to the cheerfulness of our apartments and tend to while away many a weary hour with those whom disease has unfitted for taking their place in society, though it does not prevent them appreciating those influences which have a healthy and refining effect on the mind.

It may be superfluous to say that kindness is the principle which has regulated the moral treatment of the unfortunate inmates, and that anything approaching to harshness or coercion is strictly repressed. Restraint is unknown, and seclusion has been reduced to a minimum, being had recourse to rather on account of the acknowledged deficiencies of the old building, than from a conviction of its propriety as a principle of treatment.

While the excellent condition in which the Establishment was handed over to me by my predecessor, Dr. Gilchrist, rendered it an easy and pleasant task for me to keep it up to that standard, I have endeavoured, as far as possible, to introduce such improvements, as, while promoting the comfort of the inmates, entailed no outlay on the old structure which we hope so soon to abandon.

In carrying out my views in regard to the treatment and happiness of the patients, I have been heartily supported by the officers and attendants, while to the House Committee I am indebted for the most uniform kindness extended to me during my short connection with the Institution.

JAMES C. HOWDEN.

MONTROSE, May 31, 1858.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Table I.—Shewing the General Results of the Year.

	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
In the Asylum 31st May, 1857,				107	143	250
Admissions and re-admissions during the year,.....				35	53	88
Total under treatment during the year,.....				142	196	338
Discharged during the year—						
Recovered,.....	13	30	43			
Uncured,.....	12	16	28			
Died,.....	17	13	30			
				42	59	101
Remaining in the Asylum 31st May, 1858,.....				100	137	237

Table II.—Shewing the Duration of Insanity in those Admitted.

	M.	F.	T.
Under a fortnight,.....	6	5	11
„ 1 month,.....	4	7	11
„ 3 months,.....	3	12	15
„ 6 „.....	3	8	11
„ 9 „.....	2	2	4
„ 12 „.....	2	2	4
„ 2 years.....	3	1	4
„ 3 „.....	0	2	2
„ 4 „.....	2	2	4
„ 5 „.....	1	1	2
„ 10 „.....	2	3	5
„ 15 „.....	0	1	1
„ 30 „.....	2	0	2
„ Congenital,.....	5	3	8
„ Unknown,.....	0	4	4
	35	53	88

Table III.—Shewing the Ages of those Admitted, Recovered, and Dead.

	Admitted.			Recovered.			Died.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Under 20 years,.....	3	2	5	0	5	5	0	0	0
From 20 to 30 years,.....	7	11	18	3	5	8	2	1	3
„ 30 „ 40 „.....	8	11	19	5	9	14	2	3	5
„ 40 „ 50 „.....	9	15	24	4	6	10	6	2	8
„ 50 „ 60 „.....	5	10	15	0	4	4	2	2	4
„ 60 „ 70 „.....	2	3	5	0	1	1	3	4	7
„ 70 „ 80 „.....	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
„ 80 „ 90 „.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	35	53	88	13	30	43	17	13	30

Table IV.—Shewing the Causes of Insanity in those Admitted.

	M.	F.	T.
Anxiety,	0	3	3
Grief,	1	3	4
Family Disagreement,	1	0	1
Disappointed Love,	0	1	1
Poverty,	0	1	1
Fright,	0	1	1
Reverse of Fortune,	1	2	3
Dread of Imprisonment,	1	0	1
Return to Family,	0	1	1
Intemperance,	7	3	10
Hereditary Predisposition,	2	7	9
Epilepsy,	2	0	2
Coup de Soleil,	1	0	1
Uterine Hæmorrhage,	0	1	1
Prolonged Lactation,	0	1	1
Suppression of Menses,	0	1	1
Fever,	0	2	2
Bad Health,	2	7	9
Child Birth,	0	2	2
Previous Attack,	7	6	13
Congenital,	5	3	8
Unknown,	5	8	13
	35	53	88

Table V.—Shewing the Mental Affections of those Admitted, Recovered, and Dead.

	Admitted.			Recovered.			Dead.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Mania—Recent,	6	15	21	5	12	17	0	2	2
„ Periodic,	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
„ Chronic,	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
„ Hysterical,	1	1	2	1	2	3	0	0	0
Monomania—Suspicious,	2	6	8	0	3	3	0	0	0
„ Proud,	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Melancholia,	4	15	19	6	11	17	0	1	1
Dementia,	7	7	14	0	0	0	11	8	19
Congenital Imbecility,	5	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epileptics (Demented),	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Gen. Paralysis (Monomaniacal)	3	2	5	0	0	0	3	0	3
„ (Demented),	2	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	3
Delirium Tremens,	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
	35	53	88	13	30	43	17	13	30

Table VI.—Shewing the Cause of Death.

	M.	F.	T.
Apoplexy,	1	0	1
Paralysis,	3	1	4
General Paralysis,	3	0	3
Exhaustion from Mania,	0	1	1
„ „ Epilepsy,	1	0	1
„ „ General Decay,	2	1	3
„ „ Senile „	2	1	3
Morbus Cordis,	0	2	2
Pneumonia,	1	0	1
Phthisis,	3	5	8
Dysentery,	1	1	2
Ilens,	0	1	1

Table VII.—Shewing the Residence in Asylum of those Recovered and those Dead.

	Recovered.			Dead.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Under 4 weeks,.....	0	0	0	0	2	2
„ 6 „.....	2	2	4	1	0	1
„ 2 months.....	1	0	1	0	1	1
„ 3 „.....	0	3	3	0	0	0
„ 4 „.....	0	3	3	2	1	3
„ 5 „.....	3	0	3	0	0	0
„ 6 „.....	0	5	5	0	0	0
„ 9 „.....	4	9	13	2	1	3
„ 12 „.....	1	5	6	1	3	4
„ 18 „.....	1	1	2	2	0	2
„ 2 years.....	0	1	1	2	0	2
„ 3 „.....	1	0	1	1	1	2
„ 6 „.....	1	1	2	0	2	2
„ 7 „.....	0	0	0	2	0	2
„ 10 „.....	0	0	0	1	0	1
„ 15 „.....	0	0	0	1	1	2
„ 30 „.....	0	0	0	0	1	1
„ 35 „.....	0	0	0	1	0	1
„ 40 „.....	0	0	0	1	0	1
	14	30	44	17	13	30

Table VIII.—Work done by the Inmates.

By Males.	Made.	Repd.	By Females.	Made.	Repd.
Coats,.....	2	32	Bed Gowns,.....	91	282
Jackets,.....	40	468	Blankets hemmed,.....	41	291
Vests,.....	37	572	Sheets do.,.....	304	374
Trousers,.....	75	941	Bed Ticks,.....	48	167
Keys fitted,.....	67		Pillows,.....	92	54
Patent Dresses,.....		59	Pillow Slips,.....	194	807
Stocks,.....		90	Quilted Sheets,.....	31	19
Braces, pairs,.....	94		„ Coverlets,.....	6	20
Shoes,.....	77	323	Straw Mattresses,.....	8	17
Salmon Nets,.....	20 cwt.		Canvas Dresses,.....	8	11
Oakum picked,.....	12½ „		Feeding Aprons,.....	12	40
Wooden Beds,.....	14	312	Smock Frocks,.....	6	18
„ Chairs,.....	3	184	Shirts,.....	129	571
Windows,.....		348	Shifts,.....	258	676
Doors,.....		239	Flannel Shirts,.....	221	1250
Locks put on,.....		367	Petticoats,.....	122	508
Shelves,.....	20	3	Pairs Drawers,.....	47	385
Picture Frames,.....	25	8	„ Stockings,.....	210	1802
Washing Tubs,.....		13	„ Socks,.....	190	389
Glass Frames,.....	5		Gowns,.....	165	565
Tables,.....	3	105	Bed Gowns,.....	93	362
Barrows,.....	18	26	Aprons,.....	299	543
Looking Glasses,.....		22	Day Caps,.....	344	452
Coal Boxes,.....	22	38	Night do.,.....	172	225
Water Closets,.....		154	Pairs Stays,.....	53	164
Forms,.....	8	23	Stocks,.....	56	137
Floors,.....		17	Polkas,.....	2	6
Mantle-pieces,.....	2	6	Bonnets trimmed,.....	90	309
Drying Pins,.....	354		Handkerchiefs hemmed,..	291	423
Grape Handles,.....	30		Towels do.,.....	126	73
Carpets Laid,.....	23		Window Blinds,.....	34	36
Boiler Tops,.....	2	13	Table Cloths,.....	24	17
Sofas,.....	1	2	Habitshirts,.....	8	
Leaping Polls,.....	2		Toilet Covers,.....	40	98
Panes of Glass,.....	558		Pairs Shoes bound,.....	35	

REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

~~~~~

YOUR Committee have again to report the result of the progress of the Asylum during last year, in the course of which they have made their usual weekly visits as a Committee, occasional visits having also been made by the individual members. The Committee have pleasure in reporting that the Asylum has been conducted in such a manner as to conduce as much as possible to the comfort of the patients, and that everything has been done with this view by the Medical Superintendents—Dr. Gilchrist, who left for the Royal Crichton Institution in November last, and his successor, Dr. Howden. The Committee have frequently had occasion to advert to Dr. Gilchrist's skill, efficiency, and zeal; and they have great satisfaction in reporting that the office of Medical Superintendent is now held by a gentleman eminently qualified to sustain and add to the character of the Institution. Dr. Howden's attention has of late been directed to the improvement of the internal arrangements in the New Asylum.

The Committee have also to express their approbation of the services of Mr. Cowan, the Medical Assistant, and to renew the expression of their satisfaction with the care and attention of Mrs. Wright, the Matron, and Mr. Niddrie, the Master, and of the attendants employed under them.

D. MACKIE,

Chairman of House Committee.

## REPORT OF THE ROYAL INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY

*For the Year ending 31st May, 1858.*

---

THE Tables now submitted show an increase in the number of patients under treatment in the Infirmary during the last twelve-months, as compared with that of the two previous years. This is chiefly, if not entirely, due to the admission to an unusual extent of patients labouring under consumption in its different stages, and other diseases of the pulmonary organs—the number of such complaints during the last year having amounted to 60, while the average of the two previous years was only 31. The mortality for the year has also been increased by the same class of diseases—8 deaths out of 14 having occurred from complaints of the chest. No epidemic has been prevalent during the past year—the 23 cases of Fever, noticed in the tables, having occurred at irregular intervals, and having been chiefly of a mild character.

The admission for injuries during the year amounts to the large number of 48, no fewer than one-fourth being fractures.

Fourteen operations have been performed during the year, some of them in cases of great interest, and all having a successful result, with the exception of a case of strangulated hernia, which, unfortunately, was received into the House at too advanced a stage.

The number of cases treated at the Dispensary and patients' own houses amounts to 1073.

Dr. Lawrence, as formerly, has co-operated in the management of the Infirmary and Dispensary throughout the year.

DAVID JOHNSTON, M.D.



*Table I.—Shewing the General Results of the Year.*

|                                         | M.        | F.        | Total.    |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1st June, 1857.—Remained in House,..... | 4         | 6         | 10        |
| Admitted during the year,.....          | 170       | 128       | 298       |
|                                         | <hr/> 174 | <hr/> 134 | <hr/> 308 |
|                                         | M.        | F.        | T.        |
| Discharged Cured,.....                  | 143       | 95        | 238       |
| „ Improved,.....                        | 12        | 12        | 24        |
| „ Unfit,.....                           | 0         | 1         | 1         |
| „ Dead,.....                            | 8         | 6         | 14        |
| „ Left,.....                            | 3         | 2         | 5         |
|                                         | <hr/> —   | <hr/> —   | <hr/> —   |
|                                         | 166       | 116       | 282       |
| 1st June, 1858.—Remained in House.....  | 8         | 18        | 26        |

*Table II.—Classification of Diseases under which the Patients laboured when admitted into the Infirmary.*

|                                    | M.        | F.        | T.        |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Fever,.....                        | 13        | 10        | 23        |
| Ulcers and Abscesses,.....         | 20        | 14        | 34        |
| Wounds and Injuries,.....          | 25        | 11        | 36        |
| Tumours and Malignant Sores,.....  | 5         | 7         | 12        |
| Diseases of Digestive Organs,..... | 13        | 15        | 28        |
| „ Heart,.....                      | 1         | 0         | 1         |
| „ Respiratory Organs,.....         | 34        | 26        | 60        |
| „ Organs of Generation,.....       | 12        | 6         | 18        |
| „ Bones and Joints,.....           | 11        | 11        | 22        |
| „ Urinary Organs,.....             | 6         | 0         | 6         |
| „ Nervous System,.....             | 4         | 4         | 8         |
| „ Skin,.....                       | 6         | 7         | 13        |
| „ Eye,.....                        | 4         | 6         | 10        |
| Rheumatism,.....                   | 3         | 6         | 9         |
| Fractures,.....                    | 8         | 4         | 12        |
| Delirium Tremens,.....             | 3         | 0         | 3         |
| Burns,.....                        | 1         | 0         | 1         |
| Dropsies,.....                     | 1         | 1         | 2         |
|                                    | <hr/> 170 | <hr/> 128 | <hr/> 298 |

*Table III.—Operations performed during the year.*

|                               | M.      | F.      | T.       |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Amputation of Toe,.....       | 1       | 1       | 2        |
| „ Finger,.....                | 0       | 2       | 2        |
| „ Leg,.....                   | 1       | 0       | 1        |
| „ Thigh,.....                 | 2       | 0       | 2        |
| Cancer of Lip Excision,.....  | 0       | 1       | 1        |
| „ Breast do.,.....            | 1       | 2       | 3        |
| Strangulated Hernia,.....     | 0       | 2       | 2        |
| Excision of Elbow Joint,..... | 1       | 0       | 1        |
|                               | <hr/> 6 | <hr/> 8 | <hr/> 14 |

*Table IV.—Causes of Death in fourteen fatal cases.*

|                                | M.      | F.      | T.       |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Fever,.....                    | 0       | 1       | 1        |
| Phthisis,.....                 | 2       | 3       | 5        |
| Bronchitis, .....              | 3       | 0       | 3        |
| Abscess of Thigh,.....         | 1       | 0       | 1        |
| Strangulated Hernia,.....      | 0       | 1       | 1        |
| Disease of Liver, &c.,.....    | 0       | 1       | 1        |
| Retention of Urine,.....       | 1       | 0       | 1        |
| Injury to Head and Chest,..... | 1       | 0       | 1        |
|                                | <hr/> 8 | <hr/> 6 | <hr/> 14 |

*Table V.—Shewing the Occupations of 298 Patients admitted into the Infirmary during the year.*

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Millworkers,.....                    | 72        |
| Labourers,.....                      | 49        |
| Unemployed, .....                    | 30        |
| Weavers,.....                        | 27        |
| At School,.....                      | 14        |
| Domestic Servants,.....              | 14        |
| Artillerymen,.....                   | 13        |
| Fishers,.....                        | 11        |
| Sailors, .....                       | 9         |
| Mothers and Housewives,.....         | 8         |
| Hawkers and Pedlars,.....            | 7         |
| Farm Servants,.....                  | 5         |
| Flaxdressers,.....                   | 4         |
| Minstrels and Comedians,.....        | 4         |
| Tailors,.....                        | 4         |
| Children,.....                       | 2         |
| Blacksmiths, 2 ; Carters, 3,.....    | 5         |
| Sailmakers, 2 ; Shoemakers, 2, ..    | 4         |
| Masons, 2 ; Brushmakers, 2,.....     | 4         |
| Porter, 1 ; Plasterer, 1,.....       | 2         |
| Pensioner, 1 ; Wireworker, 1,.....   | 2         |
| Baker, 1 ; Sawmiller, 1,.....        | 2         |
| Cooper, 1 ; Painter, 1,.....         | 2         |
| Groom, 1 ; Flesher, 1,.....          | 2         |
| Miner, 1 ; Flying Stationer, 1,..... | 2         |
| Total.....                           | <hr/> 298 |

*Table VI.—Shewing the Ages of the 298 Patients admitted into the Infirmary during the year.*

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Patients under 20 years of age,..... | 77        |
| ,, between 20 and 50,.....           | 157       |
| ,, above 50,.....                    | 64        |
|                                      | <hr/> 298 |

*Table VII.—Report of the Patients treated at the Dispensary and at their own houses.*

|             |                 |      |
|-------------|-----------------|------|
| 1857        | June,.....      | 130  |
|             | July,.....      | 66   |
|             | August,.....    | 57   |
|             | September,..... | 142  |
|             | October,.....   | 102  |
|             | November,.....  | 93   |
|             | December,.....  | 93   |
| 1858        | January,.....   | 103  |
|             | February,.....  | 92   |
|             | March,.....     | 62   |
|             | April,.....     | 79   |
|             | May,.....       | 54   |
| Total,..... |                 | 1073 |

## REPORT OF THE INFIRMARY COMMITTEE.

THE Committee have the satisfaction to report that their application to the Trustees of the late John Ferguson, Esq. of Cairnbrock, met with a favorable reception, and produced a donation of £150 to the funds of the Infirmary. A legacy of £50 has also been received this year from the executors of the late Mrs Anderson of Hodgston.

The usual sum of £150 was voted from the general fund at the last annual meeting of the Asylum, in addition to which there has since been received from—

|                                      |      |    |   |
|--------------------------------------|------|----|---|
| Churches and Parish Boards,.....     | £ 85 | 16 | 1 |
| Private Individuals,.....            | 114  | 11 | 5 |
| Banks and Millowners,.....           | 23   | 2  | 0 |
| Concerts,.....                       | 47   | 14 | 6 |
| Police and Game Trespass Fines,..... | 9    | 11 | 6 |
| <hr/>                                |      |    |   |
|                                      | £280 | 15 | 6 |

The number of patients admitted into the Infirmary is rather in excess of last year. The Committee have met weekly, as usual, and have to report their satisfaction with the attention and skill of the medical attendants, and with the good order of the entire establishment.

ROBT. MILLAR,  
Chairman of Infirmary Committee.



## DONATIONS TO THE MONTROSE INFIRMARY

*For the Year ended 1st June, 1858.*

## PUBLIC BODIES, BANKS, AND MILLOWNERS.

|                                              |       |   |   |          |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|---|---|----------|
| The Montrose Royal Lunatic Asylum, . . . . . | £150  | 0 | 0 |          |
| Western Bank of Scotland, . . . . .          | 3     | 3 | 0 |          |
| Bank of Scotland, . . . . .                  | 3     | 3 | 0 |          |
| National Bank of Scotland, . . . . .         | 3     | 3 | 0 |          |
| British Linen Company, . . . . .             | 3     | 3 | 0 |          |
| Messrs. J. & G. Paton, Montrose, . . . . .   | 5     | 5 | 0 |          |
| Richards & Co., . . . . .                    | 5     | 5 | 0 |          |
|                                              | <hr/> |   |   | £173 2 0 |

## POLICE AND OTHER FINES

|                                                                                                                         |       |    |   |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|---|---------|
| Moiety of a Fine, per Police Superintendent, . . . . .                                                                  | £1    | 1  | 0 |         |
| Do. per Dean of Guild, . . . . .                                                                                        | 0     | 8  | 0 |         |
| Do. per do. . . . .                                                                                                     | 0     | 5  | 0 |         |
| Do. per Police Superintendent, . . . . .                                                                                | 1     | 5  | 0 |         |
| Do. per do. . . . .                                                                                                     | 0     | 12 | 6 |         |
| Do. per Dean of Guild, . . . . .                                                                                        | 0     | 10 | 0 |         |
| Fines paid by three Trespassers after Game, in the Parish<br>of Fettercairn, per Sir Thomas Gladstone, Bart., . . . . . | 5     | 10 | 0 |         |
|                                                                                                                         | <hr/> |    |   | £9 11 6 |

## CONCERTS BY WORKERS AT PUBLIC WORKS.

|                                                          |       |    |   |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|---|----------|
| By Caledonian Lodge of Gardeners, . . . . .              | £3    | 10 | 0 |          |
| Montrose Benevolent Society of Odd Fellows, . . . . .    | 1     | 6  | 6 |          |
| The Apprentices of Mr. J. Cochar, Shipbuilder, . . . . . | 11    | 0  | 0 |          |
| Do. of Mr. C. Birnie, do. . . . .                        | 10    | 10 | 0 |          |
| The Weavers of Messrs Richards & Co., . . . . .          | 10    | 2  | 0 |          |
| The Operative Masons of Montrose, . . . . .              | 11    | 6  | 0 |          |
|                                                          | <hr/> |    |   | £47 14 6 |

## PAROCHIAL AND CONGREGATIONAL.

|                                                                       |       |    |   |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|---|----------|
| Parish of Lunan, . . . . .                                            | £3    | 4  | 0 |          |
| Do. of Craig, . . . . .                                               | 3     | 10 | 0 |          |
| Do. of Montrose, (Collection in Parish Church), . . . . .             | 14    | 10 | 0 |          |
| Do. of Dun, . . . . .                                                 | 2     | 19 | 6 |          |
| Parochial Board of St Cyrus, . . . . .                                | 3     | 0  | 0 |          |
| Do. of Aberlemno, . . . . .                                           | 2     | 15 | 0 |          |
| Do. of Logie Pert, . . . . .                                          | 5     | 0  | 0 |          |
| Free Church of Craig, . . . . .                                       | 2     | 10 | 0 |          |
| Do. of Benholm, . . . . .                                             | 3     | 0  | 0 |          |
| Parish of Kinnell, . . . . .                                          | 3     | 1  | 1 |          |
| Do. per Workers of Hatton and Hatton Den<br>Spinning Mills, . . . . . | 2     | 3  |   |          |
|                                                                       | <hr/> |    |   |          |
| Carry forward                                                         | £45   | 13 | 1 | £230 8 0 |

|                                                                   |                 |       |    |   |      |    |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|----|---|------|----|---|
|                                                                   | Brought forward | £45   | 13 | 1 | £230 | 8  | 0 |
| Parochial Board of Marykirk,                                      |                 | 3     | 0  | 0 |      |    |   |
| Parish of Marykirk, (Collection in Church),                       |                 | 3     | 17 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Kirk Session of Arbuthnott,                                       |                 | 3     | 0  | 0 |      |    |   |
| Parochial Board of Laurencekirk,                                  |                 | 4     | 0  | 0 |      |    |   |
| Parish of Dun,                                                    |                 | 2     | 11 | 6 |      |    |   |
| Do. of Craig,                                                     |                 | 3     | 10 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Do. of Garvock,                                                   |                 | 2     | 4  | 6 |      |    |   |
| Parochial Board of Fettercairn,                                   |                 | 3     | 0  | 0 |      |    |   |
| Do. of Montrose, for Medicines and Medical attendance to Paupers, |                 | 15    | 0  | 0 |      |    |   |
|                                                                   |                 | <hr/> |    |   | £85  | 16 | 1 |

## INDIVIDUAL.

|                                                   |       |    |   |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------|----|---|
| Messrs Alexander Cowie, Montrose,                 | £1    | 1  | 0 |
| John Nicoll, do.                                  | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Robert Cowie, do.                                 | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Alexander Lindsay, do.                            | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Robert Walker, do.                                | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Alex. Ross, seedsman, do.                         | 0     | 18 | 5 |
| John Boyd, do.                                    | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| James Beattie, do.                                | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| David Smith, do.                                  | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| David Walker, do.                                 | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| George Neill, Borrowfield,                        | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| James Salmond, Newbigging,                        | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Thomas Moore, West Quay,                          | 0     | 10 | 0 |
| William Beattie, Montrose,                        | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Robert Cooke, do.                                 | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Robert Millar, do.                                | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| C. H. Millar, do.                                 | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Edward Millar, do.                                | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| William Millar, London,                           | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| James Henderson, Montrose,                        | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Thomas Kerr, do.                                  | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| W. S. Whimster, do.                               | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| F. B. Paton, do.                                  | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| William Black, London,                            | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| Provost Napier,                                   | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| Messrs R. H. Arkley, Dunninald,                   | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| David Henderson, Montrose,                        | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| Robert Trail, Aberlady,                           | 1     | 1  | 0 |
| David Edward, Morphie Mills,                      | 0     | 5  | 0 |
| Charles Brand, Montrose,                          | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| Joseph Johnston, do.                              | 2     | 0  | 0 |
| William Hutcheon, do.                             | 1     | 0  | 0 |
| Barron Grahame, Esq. of Morphie,                  | 2     | 2  | 0 |
| The Right Hon. Lord J. F. Gordon Haliburton, Dun, | 2     | 2  | 0 |
| David Lyall, Esq. of Gallery,                     | 2     | 0  | 0 |
| Sir Thomas Gladstone, of Fasque, Bart.,           | 5     | 0  | 0 |
| John Duncan, Esq. of Parkhill,                    | 2     | 2  | 0 |
| Charles Renny, Esq., C.B., H. E. I. C. S.,        | 20    | 0  | 0 |
| James Inverarity, Esq. of Rosemount,              | 2     | 2  | 0 |
| Thomas Renny Tailyour, Esq. of Borrowfield,       | 5     | 0  | 0 |
| Adam Norrie, Esq. of New York,                    | 20    | 0  | 0 |
| Thomas Macpherson Grant, Esq. of Craigo,          | 2     | 0  | 0 |
| John Gordon, Esq. of Charlton,                    | 2     | 2  | 0 |
| Alexander Porteous, Esq. of Lauriston,            | 2     | 0  | 0 |
|                                                   | <hr/> |    |   |
| Carry forward,                                    | £99   | 4  | 5 |
|                                                   | £316  | 4  | 1 |

|                                       |     |   |   |      |    |   |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---|---|------|----|---|
| Brought forward,                      | £99 | 4 | 5 | £316 | 4  | 1 |
| Captain Archibald Macneill, Montrose, | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Captain Lysaught, R.N., Hillside,     | 1   | 0 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Mrs Duncan, Sen. of Parkhill,         | 2   | 0 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Mrs William Gordon, Montrose,         | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
| The Misses Renny, Montrose,           | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Mrs Arkley, Inchbrayock,              | 2   | 0 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Miss Arkley, do.,                     | 2   | 0 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Mrs George Paton, Montrose,           | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Miss Lyall of Gardyne,                | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
| The Misses Walker, Montrose,          | 1   | 0 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Mrs Keith of Usan, Langley Park,      | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
| Mrs E. Valentine, Montrose,           | 1   | 1 | 0 |      |    |   |
|                                       |     |   |   | £114 | 11 | 5 |
|                                       |     |   |   | £430 | 15 | 6 |

LEGACIES.

|                                                                                                                     |     |    |   |      |    |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|---|------|----|---|
| From the late Mrs Anderson, Hodgston, (less duty, &c.,<br>£5 1s. 5d.,                                               | £44 | 19 | 5 |      |    |   |
| From the Trustees of the late Mr Ferguson, of Cairnbrock,<br>being a grant from his legacy for charitable purposes, | 150 | 0  | 0 |      |    |   |
|                                                                                                                     |     |    |   | £194 | 19 | 5 |

(E. E.)

DAVID HILL,  
GEORGE C. CHALMERS, } Joint-Treasurers.



